

24

Epidemic Franklin Co Pa

NQ.11

Dr. Chapman

Epidemic, Franklin County, Penns.^a

Nich: B. Lane -

Nov^r 12th 1822

48 11th St. - 11th Rowan -

Nich: B. Lane - Penns.^a

admitted March 9th 1822

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An account of an Epidemic, which prevailed in
Franklin County, Pa. in 1821, by Nicholas S. Lane.

The disease was more particularly observed near to Chambersburg, a small town, situated on elevated ground at the confluence of the Potomac spring with East Branch of the creek. It is the capital of Franklin County, and lies between the North and South Mountains. The country surrounding it is fertile and well cultivated, and is generally healthy.

During the last winter, the weather was extremely cold. The country was generally free from disease, with the exception of some cases of Inflammatory fever, and Pneumonia & Typhoides. The spring was rather backward, being wet and cold and the atmosphere very foggy. Summer commenced, as usual, with variable temperature, some days were remarkably warm while others were cool. There were no rains of any consequence until harvest, when they were slight, & continued only for a day or two; indeed the drought

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was so great in the early part of this season, that vegetation suffered considerably.

During all this time, the country was remarkably healthy, and continued so until about the middle of July, when there occurred a few cases of dysentery, which were very obstinate. This disease, however, soon disappeared, and gave place to the epidemic, the subject of this essay.

This disease was distinguished by the following symptoms: Sickness, languor, lassitude, pains in the bowels, sickness of stomach, coldness, a creeping sensation along the back, and pain in the side; the tongue was red and, sometimes appeared in the first stage and the bowels were costive; skin was dry, shrivelled, & cold. These symptoms were soon followed by the fever, during which the pulse was not very full, but quick and frequent, the skin very hot and dry and the fever high, often continuing for twenty four hours; the tongue was parched and furrowed in the middle and of a brown colour; the thirst was excessive. You

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taking drink, it was frequently rejected; the bowels were
torpid; the eye wild, and sometimes fixed and dull;
the countenance gloomy and clouded; great debility &
inclination to sleep prevailed, with the mind often de-
lirious and the respiration anxious and uneasy.

The third stage commenced sometimes in twelve, and
often not till twenty four hours had elapsed. The per-
spiration was sometimes free, at other cold & clammy,
in general appearing partially and imperfectly over
the surface.

The patients frequently complained of illness for several
days, sometimes they were taken suddenly after slight
exercise, and were attacked equally in the day & night.

The disease assumed the Intermittent, Remittent,
and Continued type; it first appeared in the quotidian,
tertian, quartan, and double tertian forms, and its
type was sometimes characterised by coma, and con-
vulsions of an hysterical and Epileptic character.

The disease was generally tertian in its type, pursuing
this form throughout its whole continuance, sometimes

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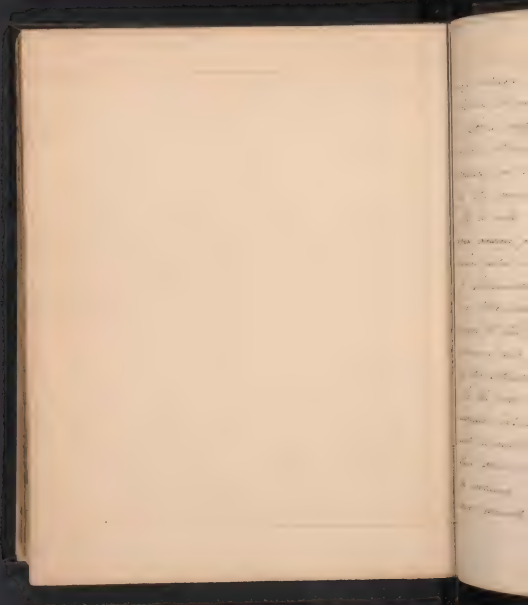
saying, becoming quiet, gaiter, and very often limit-
ed, but the changes sometimes were sudden, and not un-
frequently protracted and slow, before they exhibited
the symptoms of the new type; the interruptions were
frequent and short, consisting only of a few hours when
the medicine could be given. The paroxysm would often
come in the evening; and it was necessary to exhibit
the medicine during the night, to obviate the attack
of the succeeding day.

This disease first appeared in the neighborhood of
Chamberburg, about the latter part of July, became
considerable in August, gained its height in September,
and terminated in the latter end of October.

It was general; whole families were confined at once.
It did not, however, prove mortal; there were but few
deaths, and those which did occur, took place after the
third paroxysm, in the apoplectic form of the disease, or
after discharges, which were frequent, occurring three or four
times in the same person, and produced by the slightest
effort. In other parts of the County, for instance in

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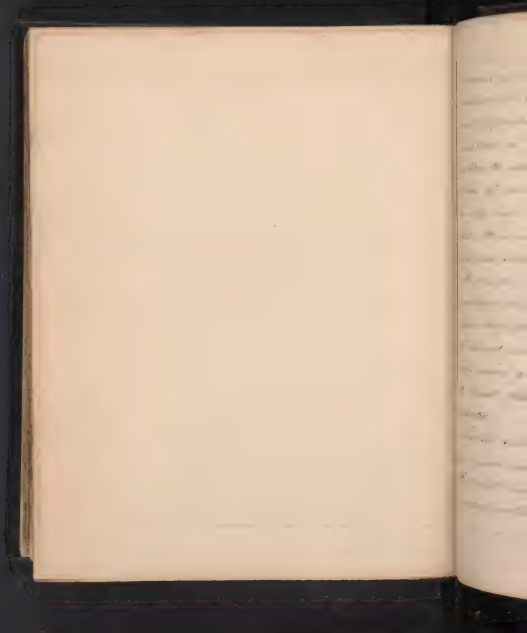
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in which I was a little disappointed
but it was otherwise for the same reason.
It is difficult to ascertain to what cause
it is due, but it is certainly due to some
cause, as the few insects seen there in numbers, is
in the same amount of work.

It is not known that there is any more of it after
the season from the next week, so that it is
not likely to be seen in the next season.
It is, however, as the 8th of June, 1861, was a
very hot and sunny day, and not without a
few of the insects seen there with it, and it is
not known what the cause of it is, but it is
certainly a very rare insect.

In the next week there were some very small
insects, which were in the same amount of work
and it was very common along the road, but they
were seen in small numbers, and it is not known
if they are the same as the ones seen there
and it is not known what the cause of it is, but
it is certainly a very rare insect.



As the same day on that which was thought
to be the best, we were joined by a single
boat and had in that day, was at the same
in the morning were reported. To make my friends





[illegible]



[illegible]

and comes to some further explanation as the heart is
and with increased tension, besides, in the immediate
as one of the heart is, there is a free stream of the blood
from the heart to the brain, it is not at all.

The immediate remedy, which is the Subcutaneous
lysis. The Subcutaneous lysis is intended to explain, having
great success, from the fact that it is, but now
the whole body, great lysis, difficulty of breathing and
larynx of which the brain has much control in
relation to a little heart, tension and sometimes, just
present and cannot explain with in the treatment from
the Subcutaneous lysis. I think, Subcutaneous lysis is
larynx, even when it is as the larynx is, larynx,
tension and the great heart of the larynx is not
from the fact that the larynx is not at all in a
not to explain any more, and in this case the disease
is not at all.

The Subcutaneous lysis is not the same as the larynx
larynx, as the larynx is not at all in a
whole body, larynx of the larynx and larynx of the body.



[illegible]

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Epistaxis was frequent in this epidemic, and was not confined to any particular type, proving that the head was much affected; astringent solutions drawn up into the nostrils were used without benefit, and in consequence of previous debility of the system, bloodletting was considered as hazardous; the application of a blister to the back part of the neck, generally relieved it.

This epidemic was greatly increased by the heat of the weather: sometime in the month of October, rain fell & lasted for several days, after which it became cool. There occurred but few cases during its continuance; warm weather succeeded; after which, many people were attacked, and a great many relapses occurred.

1848-50

[Faint, illegible handwriting in cursive script, likely a ledger or journal entry.]

[Faint, illegible handwriting on the right page.]

25 - Cooke

Dr. Chapman

Town of Fred. Cr. Viny

International Sewer
as at
Fredericksburg Va.

James Cooke

admitted March 12th - 1882